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## N° II.

## PAINTER'S REST.

*The SILVER ISIS MEDAL was this Session presented to W. BROCKEDON, Esq., 11, Caroline Street, Bedford Square, for a REST FOR THE USE OF PAINTERS. The following Communication has been received from Mr. B. on the Subject, and a Model of the Machine has been placed in the Society's Repository.*

SIR;

11, Caroline-street, Bedford-square,  
May 3, 1823.

THE painters' rest, which accompanies this letter, needs little description to explain its use; it is intended as a substitute for the common maul-stick, the inconvenience of which has been often felt by painters, sometimes from its increasing the pressure, to the fatigue of the hand, which also supports the pallet, often, in spite of the padding with which the end is armed, doing injury to the picture, if not quite dry. These disadvantages are obviated by the machine which I have the honour of submitting to the consideration of the Society. It consists of a frame, with feet of unequal length, the longest being always placed under the easel, that the pressure of the hand may not turn it over towards the picture. In the outer frame a sliding frame is made to raise,

and be fixed by a ratchet ; if the height required exceed the extent of the ratchet, the swing frame will again extend the elevation, owing to its pivots being placed out of the centre.

The machine is capable of any adjustment, from a low sitting elevation to a very high standing one, and is firm enough to steady the hand perfectly.

I am, Sir,

*A. Aikin, Esq.*

&c. &c. &c.

*Secretary, &c. &c.*

WM. BROCKEDON.

The following testimonials in favour of Mr. Brockedon's invention, have been received from the artists whose names are subjoined :—

#### CERTIFICATES.

Russell-square,  
May 16, 1823.

HAVING attentively examined the painter's rest, invented by Mr. Brockedon, I have no doubt of its affording great assistance in painting works which demand delicacy of execution, and minute accuracy. It may indeed be of considerable use to all artists who paint sitting, and would be needless or inconvenient, only in the execution of pictures of large dimensions, for which a standing posture and frequent retiring from the work, are necessary.

THOMAS LAWRENCE, *P. R. A.*

SIR ;

Argyll-place,  
May 16, 1823.

I THINK your invention of the painters' rest for the hand must be of great use to all painters of small pictures, and of

much value to them ; but in large compositions the stick in the hand will be required, and to painters of great works this invention can only become necessary in the last touches in finishing the work.

I am, Sir,  
&c. &c. &c.

JAMES NORTHCOTE.

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SIR;

8, Buckingham-place,  
May 13, 1823.

THE apparatus you have invented as a substitute for the maul stick, appears to me so completely calculated to prevent the many difficulties and dangers resulting from the use of that most inconvenient of all the tools we artists work with, that I, as one, offer you my best thanks for a discovery that I think must ensure the gratitude of the whole fraternity, as soon as it is known to them.

I should like to have one as soon as possible.

I am, Sir,  
&c. &c. &c.

C. R. LESLIE.

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SIR;

30, Allsops-buildings, New-road,  
May 12, 1823.

I HAVE examined your invention of the painter's rest and find that it answers every purpose of the maul-stick, with the advantage of not touching the picture ; it would answer in the execution of any of my works, and meets with my entire approbation.

I am, Sir,  
&c. &c. &c.

JOHN MARTIN.

SIR ;

Marlborough-street,  
May 13.

AFTER examining your contrivance for a painter's rest, I am satisfied that it possesses many advantages over the common maul-stick, providing against many of the accidents incident to the use of the latter, and that it will be found a valuable acquisition, particularly in works of minute execution.

I am, Sir,

&amp;c. &amp;c. &amp;c.

G. STUART NEWTON.

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*Reference to the Drawing of MR. BROCKEDON's Painter's Rest.—Plate VII.*

Fig. 4, a perspective view of the rest ; *p p*, two standards framed together near the foot-board by a cross bar, and by the bar *z* at top ; *q*, a rack cut in the right-hand one ; *r*, the click catching in it ; *s s*, two other standards framed together only by the bars *t* and *v*, having rabbates along their outsides, fitting into grooves in the inside of the standards *p p*, which serve as guides to them when sliding up and down. The frame *s s* is supported at any required height by the click *r* ; *u u*, a long frame, filling the space between the standards *s s* ; it is fixed to these latter by the thumb-screws *w w*. The upper part of this frame forms the rest for the arm ; and in order to prevent it from turning on the screws *w w*, a pin or bolt *x* pushes in to fix it : this pin is shown in fig. 5 ; it has a loop-hole, through which a smaller pin passes, to keep it to its place : by withdrawing the little bolt *x*, the frame *u u* may be turned quite

round on the screws *w w*, and then secured by them and by the bolt, as shown by dotted lines, to give an additional elevation, the same rack *q*, giving the intermediate height between this position and the former.

Fig. 6 shows a bird's-eye view of one foot *y y*, and standards *p* and *s*, and part of the frame *u*. The painter gives additional steadiness to the rest, by putting one foot on the foot-board *y y*, in front. The whole rest inclines from top to bottom about as much as an easel in use generally does, and the long feet go under the canvas to let it approach near enough.

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### N° III.

#### ENGRAVING ON STEEL PLATE.

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*The LARGE GOLD MEDAL of the Society was this Session presented to Mr. C. WARREN, for his IMPROVEMENTS IN THE ART OF ENGRAVING ON STEEL.*

THE death of Mr. Warren, in the interval between the adjudication of the medal and the day of annual distribution of the rewards, has prevented the Society from receiving a written communication on this interesting subject from the inventor himself. The following statement, therefore, is taken from the report of the committee to the Society, and from details communicated by Mr. Warren's personal friends, especially